



Volume 52 Issue 2

April 2008

# The Ag & I

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PDC Aug. 4-7, 2008



### Need a getaway for the summer? by Craig Kleven NDAAE President-Elect

Spring Has Arrived! So the calendar says, but the spring has been cold and windy! In Bismarck we did not have much for snow this past year, and the spring does not want to warm up or rain! If only we could convert our wind into rain... Hopefully in your part of the state you experienced some April showers to bring May flowers!

Are you looking for a fun trip outside of the windy and dry state of North Dakota? Why not spend part of the summer at the Region III Conference, June 17-19, 2008 at the Radisson Hotel & Convention Center in LaCrosse, WI! Plan a summer getaway with your family or how about a road trip with your fellow NDAAE members to LaCrosse, WI. The trip is only about a 9-10 hour drive from Bismarck and some of the members are planning to carpool together. If you are interested in attending and traveling together please let JoDee or myself know. I am very excited for my first Region III experience! In addition, there have been some rumors that Secretary Troy Enga may be retiring from his NDAAE secretary duties in August and this may be your chance to have a retirement party for Troy on a Mississippi River cruise!

Some highlights of the conference are as follows: A low registration fee of \$50.00 (includes conference fees), lunch on Wednesday, Banquet on Wednesday night and a LaCrosse Queen Riverboat outing.

For all of you golfers, Tuesday morning is golf at the LaCrosse Country Club, lunch on own, and the opening session for the conference in the afternoon. Tuesday evening NDAAE members will enjoy a cruise on the Mississippi River upon the LaCrosse Queen Riverboat. Pizza and beverages will be provided with your registration fee for one person! Additional Tickets for the cruise and meal cost \$10.00 per person. (I do not know of a cheaper retirement party for Troy!)

Wednesday will kick off with meetings in the morning and wrap up with tours in the afternoon.

Thursday morning will involve a business meeting and upon the completion of the meeting, the conference will adjourn.

This Ag & I has some great articles submitted by your fellow members, please take some time to read it and I challenge all of the 2008-2009 Vice Presidents to submit an article in the either of the 2008-09 Ag & I newsletters. What a great way to share what is going on within your own districts!

**“A ND Ag Teacher—Who wouldn’t Want to be?  
Change Lives—Teach Ag Education  
I Survived Year \_\_\_\_ (1,4,13,20,22,39)”  
by JoDee Free NDAAE President**

What do you think of when you read those statements? Why did you become an Agricultural Educator? What is your #1 success story? Take a couple of minutes and think about your answers to those questions. I hope your answers to these questions or the thoughts that come to mind from reading the first statements bring a smile to your face, maybe an out-loud laugh, or a feeling of accomplishment and success in your job. I do believe we truly belong to a worthy profession and one that changes lives. You will not find another group in education that has the same sense of family, comradery, and genuine friendship that is felt in Ag Education. I would like all of you to take a couple of minutes this month to think about all the people who have helped you in your program—either personally, with classroom/lab activities, or FFA activities—take the time to show them your appreciation and thank them. This includes your clients or students—without them we would not be here.

I attended the National Ag Ed In-service in Indianapolis in January, which was focused towards Recruitment-Development-and Retention of Ag Teachers. I realized that there are items that we as Ag teachers get stuck on and we sometimes loose site of the big picture. We focus on the little problems at the time without realizing whose eyes are watching and what they might assume we feel about our profession. We try to do everything that is out there for our students and end up showing stress and frustration when the next generation of Ag Teachers just might be watching us. I believe we put too much on our plates at times and loose sight of whether it is actually helping our students or not. I encourage you to look at your students, talk to them about our profession and maybe you will find a diamond in the rough that might turn into our next generation of Ag Teachers.

A few simple statements hit home for me at the In-service and I would like to share them with you.

1. Manage ‘Your’ Program

\*Your program does not have to look like your neighbors or anyone else’s in the state. Create your program first to what fits your strengths and interests of your students and then add a couple of new topics each year to broaden your program.

2. Volunteers

\*We are great at multi-tasking and juggling many things at one time, but don’t forget about volunteers. There are alumni, parents and community members who enjoy being involved with students and would be willing to lend an extra hand when needed.

3. How do I measure Success?

\*Is success a “straight A” Ag Mechanics Class, State Winning Team, the smile of a student who has just figured out how to pound a nail without hitting their finger, or the senior that can now answer a question or give a speech in front of the room without being physically sick or staring at the floor. Work towards how you measure success in your program.



Continued on page 3...

## NDAAE President's Message Continued from page 2.

NDAAE has many important events throughout the year, including executive meetings, National Convention, Region III Conference, and Professional Development Conference. As members of the NDAAE these are things that we should make every attempt to participate in. We expect our students to participate in FFA Activities as part of their duties of belonging to the organization, so in return let's show them that we must be active in the organizations we belong to. We stress leadership and responsibility—let's show it in our own profession and let our students know that leadership skills learned in Ag Education will last a lifetime.

The next two events on our calendar are Region III Conference in LaCrosse Wisconsin June 18-20 and the Professional Development Conference (PDC) August 4-7. Our first NDAAE Meeting at PDC will be Monday Afternoon-August 4<sup>th</sup>.

### NDAAE Upcoming Events:

#### 1. Region III- LaCrosse Wisconsin June 18-20

\*Information and registration can be found at [www.waae.com](http://www.waae.com)

#### 2. Professional Development Conference: August 4-7

\*Information and Registration can be found at [www.nd.gov/cte/pro-dev/](http://www.nd.gov/cte/pro-dev/)



## 2008 NDAAE Intern Selected: by Glen Heuttl NDAAE Past President

Benjamin Seidler has been selected the 2008 NDAAE Agricultural Education Intern. Seidler is currently wrapping up his sophomore year at NDSU. This Agriculture Education major from Garrison, ND and former ND FFA President is excited about this opportunity to work with TEAM-AG ED in ND. In addition to Ag Ed, Seidler is pursuing Spanish as a double major.

This is the second year the NDAAE Intern program. This summer, Seidler will have a first hand opportunity to work with the ND FFA Association, ND FFA Foundation, ND FFA Alumni and all three branches of ND Association of Agricultural Educators. If you get a chance to see Benjamin Seidler this summer, please welcome him to the Ag Ed family.

## **Program addition at North Dakota State College of Science**

**by Dr. Anissa Wilhelm**

Beginning Fall 2008, the Agriculture Department at North Dakota State College of Science will offer an Animal Science emphasis area of study. This area of study provides both classroom and hands-on instruction to individuals interested in an animal science related career. The program will provide instruction in nutrition, health, management systems, animal reproduction, relative to beef, sheep, swine, dairy and equine.

In addition, students will chose one of the following tracks: Farm Management (designed for students who wish to return to their family livestock operation), Sales (designed for students seeking employment selling livestock products or equipment), or Animal Production (designed for students who seek employment in a livestock production operation). A 400-hour internship related to the student's career goal is required between the first and second year of this program.



## **Coming Up in District 9**

**by Dr. Anissa Wilhelm NDDAE District 9 Vice President**

The Post-Secondary Agriculture Instructors, also known as District 9, continue to work together to address issues on the post-secondary level. In May, the district will hold the annual Spring Meeting at Logging Camp Ranch in southwestern ND. Topics include: Agro-security, ND land values, land transfers, on-line education in Agriculture, ecology tour, and Heart River Genetics tour; in addition to a few other topics/tours still in the works.

Another task that the Post-Secondary Agriculture Instructors undertake is that of common course articulation. Each year this group discusses and examines identified common courses for common content and to share ideas in teaching these courses. We believe this is an important component used to assist students who may transfer from one institution to another. We look forward to a productive meeting in May.





June 24 and 25

Save the date!

This workshop will provide the instructor with introductory skills in GPS and GIS as applied to agriculture. Participants will learn the use of GPS for simple data collection and GIS for displaying maps of this data.

Contact Carmel Miller for more information.

701-224-5557

Carmel.Miller@bscnodak.edu

# Agriculture Data Collection



**AgrowKnowledge**  
The National Center for Agriscience & Technology Education



**JOHN DEERE**



# NDAAE Spring Meeting Minutes: by Troy Enga NDAAE Secretary

**Minutes:** Vocational Center, Bismarck State College, Bismarck, North Dakota

**Date:** April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2008

Members present: JoDee Free, Craig Kleven, Troy Enga, Amanda Huettl, Dan Spellerberg, Jeremy Karkuff, Scott Wisness, Missy Hansen, Dave Axt, Trevor Steeke, Jory Hansen, Don Hagen, Doug Vannurden, Ashley Vangness and Beth Bakke Stenehjsem.

President JoDee Free called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm at the Vocational Center in Bismarck, N.D.

Troy Enga distributed the secretary report. Minutes were approved as read.

Amanda Huettl handed out the treasurer's report. She also went over the auditing committee report. Everything is up to date. NDAAE was given the check for the CHS Scholarships and was paid out to the winners. NDAAE will more than likely be taking care of this in the future years. Dan Spellerberg moved that the NDAAE run the scholarships from CHS. (Dave Axt) Motion passed. Craig Kleven moved to amend the motion by adding the chair would appoint non-applicants to review and select winners for CHS Scholarships. (Scott Wisness) Amendment to motion passed. Motion that the NDAAE handle the CHS Scholarships and the President appoint non-applicants to select winners. (Scott Wisness) Motion passed. Also, the courtesy policy was discussed. It is stated on the form signed that the policy needs to be paid within 60 days of activation or you are no longer on the policy. There are only 6 people not paid. The district V.P.'s are doing a great job is getting this updated.

Dan Spellerberg reported on NDACTE. He mentioned that that attending the NAAE and ACTE convention in Las Vegas was very worthwhile. He also stated that applications for Young Educator, Educator and Program and due by the end of April. You may send to Dan Spellerberg and he will get them in the right place. The applications are on the ACTE web site. Also, Dan briefly mentioned that the CTE and Math study is going good.

The NDAAE Intern for 2008 will be Ben Seidler. The job will start the end of May or beginning of June. There were two applications this year.

The executive committee has been talking about having an award application for the district Vice Presidents. There will be a checklist that must be completed to be eligible for the award. We will bring it up during the PDC in Bismarck and start the process for the next year.

Beth Bakke Stenehjsem visited with us about the FFA Foundation paying for one person to attend the Delta Conference. If there is more than one applicant the foundation will decide the winner. Beth also brought to our attention a new sponsorship program that the Foundation will be using. It is called the Star Partnership Program. She handed information on the program. We will look over as a group and have to give Beth a definite yes or no at the fall PDC. Beth will also give a quick over view of this program on Monday night at the Sate FFA Convention. Trevor Steeke moved to support the Star Partnership Program and have Troy and Amanda look over the dollar amounts and where they should be placed. (Missy Hansen) Motion passed.

## **NDAAE Spring Meeting Minutes Continued from page 6.**

Jeremy Karkuff visited with us about the mentoring program. He is thinking to set up at the PDC 1 mentor per district. The mentors and mentees should have a meeting 4 times a year. Jeremy also discussed possibly getting a credit or a free membership for being a mentor. He also mentioned that this should be added to the Vice Presidents checklist to make sure there is a mentor in place for each district.

There is no new information on moving the Agricultural Education Program into the College of Agriculture.

The NAAE Region III will be held in LaCrosse, Wisconsin on June 17-19. Registration is \$50.00 and rooms are single \$105.00 and doubles \$115.00

Ag and I articles are due by April 14<sup>th</sup>.

JoDee informed us of the Agriculture Education in service held in Indianapolis. They talked about retention and recruitment. Some ideas brought forward from this meeting were to: Have an Ag Ed tailgate at a Bison game.

- Do a fundraiser with PAS and Collegiate FFA.

- Students teach earlier than student teaching time. Give them an earlier indication if teaching is for them.

- Make up a jump drive with lessons and labs on it for new teachers.

- Talk to new teachers at PDC about why to be a part of the professional organization.

Dan Spellerberg moved to charge \$5.00 for the picnic at PDC. (Missy Hansen) Motion passed. The alumni will be sponsoring the meal part at the picnic this year.

The PDC banquet will remain at the same price of \$16.00.

JoDee is checking on prices and types of NDAAE shirts.

Scott Wisness moved to sell 50/50 raffle tickets at the PDC to raise money for the NAAE Relief Fund. (Trevor Steeke) Motion passed.

Carmel Miller will be holding Agro knowledge on June 24-25.

Having no other business the meeting was adjourned at 2:55 p.m.

The executive committee then reviewed the award applications.

# 2008 Salary Study

## by Doug Vannurden, Asst State Supervisor

Here is a brief summary of data gathered from the Secondary Agriculture program revised budgets for 85 secondary Ag Ed Instructors. These budgets were revised and submitted to the CTE fiscal office last October/November showing updates of projected expenditures for the 2007-2008 year.

These results are from the 82 full time instructors/programs with three part-time programs removed so as not to skew the data.

### ND Secondary Teachers (82 Full Time)

Average Salary including extended contract and FFA pay --- \$45,392  
Average Extended Contract days ----- 37 days  
Average Extended Contract Salary ----- \$ 7,894  
Average FFA Pay (41 listed separately on budget) ----- \$ 2,675

### Breakdown of Extended Contracts – (all 85 teachers)

31% = 11 ½ to 12 month (26 Instructors)  
25% = 11 to 11 ½ month (21 Instructors)  
35% = 10 to 10 ½ month (30 Instructors)  
10% = less than 10 month (8 Instructors)

### 2007-08 Beginning Teachers (8)

Average Salary including extended contract and FFA pay ---- \$31,731  
Average Extended Contract ----- 29 days

### Beginning Teachers with less than 5 years teaching (21)

Average Salary including extended contract and FFA pay ----- \$33,895  
Average Extended Contract ----- 33 days





## **Auction Items Needed by Beth Bakke Stenehjem**

Ag instructors, please consider donating to our annual FFA Alumni/Foundation Auction held at the ND State Fair. This year the auction will be held Saturday, July 19 at the All Seasons Theatre Arena. The funds for this auction are distributed as follows: 80% to the ND FFA Foundation to be used towards travel stipends for state winning teams to attend the National FFA Convention and 20% to the Alumni to be used for programs such as the Achievement Awards, WLC scholarships, etc.

If you are willing to donate, please email [bethbakke@btinet.net](mailto:bethbakke@btinet.net) with the item, cash value, and donor by May 15 to be included on the sale bill. Together we can use this opportunity to help make a difference in our young members' lives.

## **NDAAE...is your money in safe hands??**

**by Amanda S. Heuttl NDAAE Treasurer**

NDAAE...is your money in safe hands?? With the technology that is out there today, that is a questions that we need to ask ourselves. As the association treasurer, I find a sense of security in knowing that the accounts are being checked and are, “up to snuff”, let’s say. I remember my first year as the treasurer and I was told that the auditing committee would meet and needed to look over the books. It sent shivers down my spine!! “I didn’t do anything! I didn’t take anything! What is this all about and what do I need to do to prepare for this?” Rohr just told me, it’ll be fine. They just look over things and you’ll be out of there in no time. Well, I still had questions, but I just dove in. Everything went fine; however, it got me thinking. Will the next treasurer have to go through the same thing? How will they prepare? How can I help make this more of an effective process? Those questions have all been answered!!

Last August, our association decided to implement an auditing committee report form. In prior years, the auditing committee had meet and looked through the records of the NDAAE treasurer. Members that have served on that committee in the past and present have done a great job and there have never been any problems with the financial status of the NDAAE. However, we felt that it would benefit the association, as well as the treasurer, to have an actual report or checklist to assist these individuals. The auditing committee members will now use this checklist to be sure that everything has been covered and that the NDAAE is financially accurate and sound. The report requires signatures from everyone on the committee and the treasurer of the state association. If it has been found that an independent audit is needed in addition to the NDAAE committee audit, one will be put into place. A copy of this report will be included in your NDAAE professional development conference packets this coming August. You will then be able to review and look over this new addition we have put into place.

As I look back on this situation, I realize how much of an affect not having an auditing report on file could have had on the association and treasurer of the accounts. We are all trusting individuals and being the North Dakotans that we are, we pride ourselves in that. However, financial situations occur and some people panic. Money and its availability can make people do strange things!!!



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